

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EA-07 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
SAJ-01 ACDA-07 EB-08 /085 W  
-----250024Z 029316 /66

R 241644Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3413

INFO SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY COLLECTIVE 65

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA

CNO WASHDC//OP-614

DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII

OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR PARM NATO CH CZ EG IS UR US PO KNJA XJ

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY: JANUARY 22-24, 1977

1. US COVERAGE IS HEAVY AND CONCENTRATES ON THE  
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NEED FOR PROGRESS ON ARMS CONTROL.

--PRAVDA'S FRONT-PAGE LEAD EDITORIAL (JAN. 22)

FOLLOWS UP BREZHNEV'S TULA SPEECH WITH A STRONG  
REAFFIRMATION OF MOSCOW'S COMMITMENT TO PEACE AND  
FURTHER ARMS CONTROL MEASURES. PRAVDA SAYS THAT  
"IT IS COMPLETELY POSSIBLE TO UNDERTAKE A STRONG  
NEW MOVE IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS, TO CONCLUDE

WORK IN THE NEAR FUTURE ON PREPARATION FOR AN AGREEMENT ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC ARMS."

--THE SAME POINT WAS VOICED BY SERGEI VISHNEVSKIY IN PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL WEEK (JAN. 23), WHO QUOTED PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENT ON TAKING A STEP THIS YEAR TOWARD LIQUIDATING NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND REPLIED THAT "THE SOVIET UNION IS PREPARED, TOGETHER WITH THE NEW US ADMINISTRATION, TO UNDERTAKE A STRONG NEW POSITIVE MOVE IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES." VISHNEVSKIY ADDS THAT THE SOONER THE DETAILS ARE WORKED OUT THE BETTER.

--THESE TWO ITEMS, AND SEVERAL OTHERS IN THE WEEKEND PRESS, ALSO DENOUNCE THOSE WHO SPREAD THE MYTH OF A "SOVIET THREAT." PRAVDA MENTIONS VARIOUS ANTI-SOVIET FORCES WITHOUT MENTIONING NAMES, WHILE VISHNEVSKIY NAMES BELGIAN GENERAL CLOSE AND NATO CHIEF HAIG AS PERPETRATORS OF THIS MYTH. PRAVDA'S VITALIY KORIONOV (JAN 22) SINGLES OUT GENERAL HAIG'S RECENT INTERVIEW ON THE RELATIVE STRENGTH OF NATO AND WP FORCES. CHARGES OF NATO "WEAKNESS/ AND SOVIET STRENGTH ARE A TRANSPARENT ATTEMPT TO GET A LARGER MILITARY BUDGET, SAYS KORIONOV.

PRAVDA (JAN 22) HAS A SIMILAR PIECE BY S. TIMOFEYEV ON TIME MAGAZINE'S COVERAGE OF CHARGES BY SENATORS NUNN AND BARTLETT ON THE CONSEQUENCES OF A SOVIET SURPRISE ATTACK.

--PRAVDA (JAN 24) CARRIES A REPORT BY WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT G. VASIL'YEV ON US PEACE GROUPS DEMONSTRATING FOR "WORK, NOT BOMBERS." LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AAIN OTHER US COVERAGE, IZVESTIYA (JAN 21) AND PRAVDA (JAN 22) CARRY THE TEXT OF FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO'S CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO SECRETARY VANCE.

--PRAVDA'S T. KOLESNICHENKO (JAN 23) REPORTS REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S AMNESTY PROCLAMATION AND COMMENTS THAT THE STATEMENT IS SEEN AS AN OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT "US INTERVENTION IN VIETNAMESE AFFAIRS WAS A BRUTAL POLITICAL MISTAKE."

--PRAVDA (JAN 24) CARRIES A TASS WASHINGTON ITEM REPORTING THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO REORGANIZE THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL INTO TWO COMMITTEES INSTEAD OF SIX, BUT THE ITEM DOES NOT GIVE DETAILS OF EITHER THE NEW OR OLD STRUCTURES.

--IN A TYPICAL NEGATIVE ITEM, PRAVDA (JAN 22) CARRIES A REPORT, WITH SEVERAL INDIVIDUAL HARD- LUCK STORIES, BY NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT KOLESNICHENKO ON THE TOUGH WINTER IN THE US AND THE EFFECTS OF

HIGH HEATING COSTS ON THE POOR.

--PRAVDA (JAN 22) CARRIES A TASS STOCKHOLM  
ITEM REPORTING THAT US AIR FORCE PLANES OFTEN  
VIOLATE SWEDISH AIR SPACE OVER THE BALTIC AND  
ENDANGER CIVIL AVIATION IN THE REGION.

2. IN OTHER ITEMS:

--SPARSE WEST EUROPEAN COVERAGE TENDS TO LINK  
ONTO THEME THAT MILITARISTS ARE PUSHING "SOVIET  
THREAT" TO DRIVE UP ARMS BUDGETS, THIS TIME BY  
PRESSURING WESTERN EUROPEAN DESPITE ECONOMIC DIFFI-  
CULTIES. THUS, MAJOR E. PRIBYTKOVSKIY COMPLAINS  
AT LENGTH IN KZ (JAN 22) THAT STATIONING OF US  
BRIGADE IN NORTHAG IS PRESSURE ON FRG, AND BRIEF  
COMMENT BY PRAVDA CORRESPONDENT YU. KUZNETSOV  
(JAN 23) COMPLAINS THAT NORTH NORWAY MANEUVERS WITH  
UK PARTICIPATION CONSTITUTE PRESSURE ON NORWAY.  
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AAFROM POLAND, NOWA HUTA FIRST SECRETARY JOZEF  
NOVOTNY'S GLOWING DESCRIPTION OF PARTY WORK IN HIS  
DISTRICT (PRAVDA, JAN 22) ARRIVES AT CORRECT CON-  
CLUSIONS -- MORE IDEOLOGICAL WORK, WITH STRESS ON  
POLISH-SOVIET TIES -- VIS DETOURS WHICH MUST SOUND  
ODD TO SOVIET READERS: IN NOWA HUTA, WORKERS AND  
ENGINEERS ARE CONSULTED IN ANALYSES OF DEVELOPMENT  
PROBLEMS, PARTY EDUCATION IS GIVEN TO NON-PARTY AS  
WELL AS PARTY AKTIV AND SOCIOLOGISTS HELP STUDY  
EFFECTIVENESS OF VARIOUS FORMS OF PARTY WORK.  
--ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA, PRAVA JAN 23 COMMENTA-  
TOR'S COLUMN BY IGOR' BIRYUKOV IS STRONGEST SOVIET  
DEFENSE YET OF CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERSHIP ("HEADED  
BY COMRADE G. HUSAK") AGAINST ANTI-CZECHOSLOVAK  
LIBEL CAMPAIGN UNLEASHED BY IMPEARIALIST PROPAGANDA  
RE CHARTER 77. CONTRARY TO PAPER ORDERED BY "INTER-  
NATIONAL ANTI-COMMUNIST AND ZIONIST CENTERS,"  
CSSR IS TERRIFIC DEMOCRACY -- 99.97  
PERCENT VOTED FOR CANDIDATES IN RECENT ELECTIONS --  
AND ALSO DEVOTED TO ALLIANCE WITH USSR.  
--CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES SEVERAL ARTICLES ON  
DEMONSTRATIONS AND OTHER FORMS OF SOCIAL UNREST  
IN EGYPT. BASIC THEME OF ARTICLES IS TWOFOLD:  
(1) THAT DEMONSTRATIONS EXEMPLIFY FAILURE OF  
WESTERN-BACKED "OPEN DOOR POLICY" AND, (2) THAT  
EGYPTIAN PRESS HAS EMBARKED ON A  
CAMPAIGN TO HIDE THIS FACT BY ACCUSING COMMUNISTS

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ACTION EUR-12

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SAJ-01 ACDA-07 EB-08 /085 W

-----250027Z 027011 /66

R 241644Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3414

INFO SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY COLLECTIVE 66

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA//

CNO WASHDC//OP-614//

DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII//

OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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OF INSTIGATING DISORDERS. JAN. 24 PRAVDA CARRIES  
TASS CAIRO ITEM WHICH CRITICIZES "UNFIRNDLY"  
ARTICLES WHICH HAVE RECENTLY APPEARED IN EGYPTIAN  
PRESS AND WHICH ATTEMPT TO DESCRIBE SOVIET-EGYPTIAN  
RELATIONS IN RECENT YEARS AS CHARACTERIZED BY  
SOVIET INTERFERENCE IN EGYPTIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
JAN. 22 PRAVDA CARRIES LENGTHY ARTICLE BY  
A. VASIL'YEV IN WHICH HE CONTRASTS ALTRUISTIC SOVIET  
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND PROJECTS IN EGYPT WITH  
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WESTERN (ESPECIALLY IBRD) ASSISTANCE WITH ITS MANY  
ATTACHED STRINGS.

-- JAN. 23 PRAVDA "INTERNATIONAL WEEK" COLUMN BY S. VISHNEVSKIY DESCRIBES ISRAELI "ANNEXATIONIST" POLICIES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, SAYS ALL SIDES ARE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT STEP-BY-STEP AGREEMENTS AND SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY HAVE RUN THEIR COURSE, AND CONCLUDES BY CALLING FOR RETURN TO GENEVA MEPC.

-- SEVERAL ARTICLES IN WEEKEND PRESS PLAY ON BENIN PRESIDENT KEREKOU'S REPORTED REMARKS ON "AGENTS ON IMPERIALISM", AND MERCENARIES HIRED BY INTERNATIONAL IMPERIALISM WHO ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW PROGRESSIVE REGIMES SUCH AS HIS OWN. L. POCHIVALOV IN JAN. 24 PRAVDA DESCRIBES WEAPONS CAPTURED DURING COUP ATTEMPT AS BEING MADE IN U.S., FRANCE, AND BELGIUM.

-- JAN. 23 PRAVDA NOTES MEETING BETWEEN POLITBURO CANDIDATE MEMBER PONOMAREV AND CONGO MIN. DEF AND SECURITY (WEARING HIS CONGOLESE LABOR PARTY HAT) D. SASSU-NJESSO (PHONETIC).

-- JAN. 21 IZVESTIYA NOTES ASSASSINATION BY "HIRED KILLERS, TERRORISTS FROM COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS" OF ONE OF ETHIOPIAN PMAC "LEADERS", BERKHANU TEKLE-MARIAN (PHONETIC).

-- PRAVDA (JAN. 24) FRONT-PAGES A BIO AND PHOTO OF NORTH KOREAN PREMIER PAK SONG-CHOL, WHO IS DUE IN MOSCOW TODAY FOR A "FRIENDLY VISIT" AT THE INVITATION OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT.

-- PRAVDA (JAN. 22) REPORTS THAT JAPANESE CP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEPUTY CHAIRMAN NISHIZAWA WAS RECEIVED BY SOVIET PARTY SECRETARY PONOMAREV ON JAN 20 AND LEFT FOR HOME ON JAN 21.

-- ALSO ON JAPAN, IZVESTIYA CARRIES A CURIOUS ARTICLE BY A JAPANESE BUSINESSMAN, TYUITI TOYESAWA (PHONETIC), DIRECTOR OF THE JAPANESE-USSR SOCIETY, ON HIS BELIEF THAT THE SOVIET UNION WANTS PEACE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THE AUTHOR NOTES THAT HIS FIRST ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE USSR WAS A MEMBER OF THE KWANTUNG ARMY CAPTURED IN 1945.

-- IZVESTIYA (JAN. 22) CARRIED A LONG INTERVIEW WITH OVIR DIRECTOR OBIDIN CALLED "SOAP BUBBLES AND

REAL FACTS", WHICH IS HIGHLY DEFENSIVE ABOUT  
SOVIET EMIGRATION PRACTICES. THE MAIN TV CHANNEL  
ALSO CARRIED AN HOUR-LONG ANTI-ZIONIST DOCUMENTARY  
ON JAN. 22 CALLED "SOUL BUYERS" (BOTH ITEMS REPORTED  
SEPTEL).  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 6  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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